

REMARKS

The applicant thanks the Examiner for the telephone interview dated January 25, 2007, in which the claims and the prior art references were discussed.

The comments of the applicant below are each preceded by related comments of the examiner in the Office Action dated September 25, 2006 (in small, bold type).

5. Claims 1-4, 7, 10-14, 17, 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen et al ("Chen", 6,349,307) in view of Raskutti et al ("Raskutti", US 2006/0089924).

As per independent claim 1, Chen discloses a system for managing a personal view for a user comprising: a proxy to track web pages that have been accessed by the user and extract a topic page from the web pages (Column 3 lines 55 - Column 4 lines 47); a personal view constructor, which builds the personal view as a hierarchy of categories based on the topic page extracted by the proxy (Column 4 lines 48-60), the categories in the personal view being selected from a group of predefined categories (Column 4 lines 32-37). However, Chen fails to distinctly point out making structural changes to the hierarchy based on the energy values. However, Raskutti teaches adjusting the hierarchy of categories based on the value of each category ([0075] -[0076]). Therefore it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to combine the teaching of Raskutti with the system of Chen. Motivation to do so would have been to understand a single document category over time.

Chen does not disclose and would not have suggested “a proxy to track web pages that have been accessed by the user”, as recited in claim 1. Chen discloses sending crawlers to document sources to gather new documents, and servers that determine the topics contained in each document (col. 3, line 55 to col. 4, line 47). Chen’s system does not include a proxy to track web pages that have been accessed by the user.

Moreover, Raskutti does not disclose a personal view maintainer that adjusts the hierarchy according to an energy value of each of the categories, as recited in claim 1. Although Raskutti discloses creating finer partitioning of a category if the number of messages within a group gets larger (paragraph [0076]), Raskutti does not disclose and would not have suggested adjusting a hierarchy of categories according to the energy value of each of the categories.

Claim 11 is patentable for at least similar reasons as those applied to claim 1.

As per claim 4, which is dependent on claim 2, Chen-Raskutti discloses a method wherein the corresponding category is an ancestor of the selected category in the superset of categories if the selected category is not in the hierarchy (Chen, Column 8 lines 14-37).

Chen does not disclose and would not have suggested “updating an ancestor of the selected category” in the superset of categories if the selected category is not in the hierarchy, as recited in claim 2. The portion of Chen (col. 8, lines 14-37) cited by the Examiner describes a graphic presentation that allows a user to navigate a hierarchy of topics, but does not disclose updating an ancestor of the selected category.

6. Claims 5, 6, 8, 15, 16, 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen et al ("Chen", 6,349,307) in view of Raskutti et al ("Raskutti", US 2006/0089924) in further view of Bodnar et al ("Bodnar", 6,310,634).

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As per claim 6, which is dependent on claim 5, Chen-Raskutti-Bodnar discloses a method wherein the personal view maintainer chooses the child category that maximizes a gain value Bodnar, Column 17 line 64 - Column 18 line 22).

Bodnar does not disclose and would not have suggested choosing a child category that maximizes a gain value, as recited in claim 6. Rather, what Bodnar discloses is a method of adjusting tab categories and subcategories based on the number of lines on a display of a portable computing device (col. 17, line 64 to col. 18, line 22). Bodnar does not disclose a gain value, let alone choosing a child category that maximizes the gain value.

4. Claims 25, 28-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Godoy et al ("Godoy", "PersonalSearcher: An Intelligent Agent for Searching Web Pages") in view of Raskutti et al ("Raskutti", US 2006/0089924).

As per claim 25, Godoy teaches a method comprising: assigning an energy value to each category of hierarchy of categories of web pages (Page 5 lines 22-31), the energy value of a category representing a user's degree of interest in the category, the energy value of a category being increased when a user accesses web pages belonging to that category (Godoy, Page 5 lines 22-31). However, Godoy fails to distinctly point out making structural changes to the hierarchy based on the energy values. However, Raskutti teaches adjusting the hierarchy of categories based on the value of each category ([0075] -[0076]). Therefore it would have been obvious to an artisan at the time of the invention to combine the teaching of Raskutti with the system of Godoy. Motivation to do so would have been to understand a single document category over time.

The examiner acknowledges that Godoy does not disclose “adjusting the hierarchy of categories based on the energy value of each of the categories,” as recited in claim 25, but points to Raskutti as disclosing what is missing in Godoy. The applicant respectfully disagrees.

Although Raskutti discloses creating finer partitioning of a category if the number of messages within a group gets larger (paragraph [0076]), Raskutti does not disclose and would not have suggested that the partitioning of a category is based on the energy values of the

category. Rather, Raskutti discloses an editor/browser 16 for manually altering the automatically created groups (paragraph [0071]).

Raskutti discloses that, if there are very few messages for a particular category in consecutive time periods, it might indicate that the corresponding filter is no longer required (paragraph [0076]). The applicant notes that removing a filter is not equivalent to adjusting the hierarchy of categories. In Raskutti, the hierarchy of categories is changed by the clusterer 12, not by the filter 33, which is used to classify documents. Each new document is tagged with scores determined by using the filter 33, in which the scores indicate the likelihood that the new document belongs to a particular category (paragraph [0072]). Thus, Raskutti does not disclose or suggest “adjusting the hierarchy of categories based on the energy value of each of the categories,” as recited in claim 25.

All of the dependent claims are patentable for at least the same reasons as those applied to the claims on which they depend.

Any circumstance in which the applicant has addressed certain comments of the examiner does not mean that the applicant concedes other comments of the examiner. Any circumstance in which the applicant has made arguments for the patentability of some claims does not mean that there are not other good reasons for patentability of those claims and other claims. Any circumstance in which the applicant has amended or canceled a claim does not mean that the applicant concedes any of the examiner's positions with respect to that claim or other claims.

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Please apply the \$60 fee for the Petition for Extension of Time, as well as any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 25, 2007_____

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